

**Major:** Business & Philosophy  
**Home Country:** Micronesia

### Why did you choose Ireland ?

To go to Ireland was one of the main reasons I came to Mount Mary because I was able, as an international student, to Study Abroad. The reason I always wanted to go to Ireland was because of the books I had read, which were romances, but the reality of Ireland was very different.

### Housing:

I liked staying at Inch House because it had a homey feel to it. We could go down to the kitchen and make tea for ourselves. We really felt at home there.

*“You have to have the mindset that you’re only there a limited time, so you need to take advantage of all the opportunities that are there.”*

### Biggest cultural difference:

Compared to Micronesia, the people in Ireland are more involved with and more aware of political issues, which are an important part of their culture.

### The benefits of Study Abroad:

The setting itself enables you to immerse yourself in the culture instead of just reading about it. Just being there is a mind-opening experience. Without even realizing it, you learn so much about the people, the culture, and the lifestyle.

### Most memorable experience:

At Downpatrick, I went through an epiphany just being there. All my life I have heard of St. Patrick, but to actually stand where he stood thousands of years ago was really amazing.



Lourdes signed the Peace Wall in Belfast, Northern Ireland, while on a walking tour of the murals that testify to the history of the Troubles in Northern Ireland.